

Message Text

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SUBJ: BREZHNEV ADDRESSES COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION ON 1975 DRAFT
ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PLANS

1. CENTRAL PRESS OCTOBER 3 ANNOUNCES THAT COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS MET OCTOBER 1 AND 2 FOR REVIEW OF 1975 DRAFT ECONOMIC
AND FINANCIAL PLANS. GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV GAVE "SPEECH"
AT SESSION, DURING WHICH HE SUBMITTED RESULTS TO
DATE OF NINTH FIVE YEAR PLAN TO "DEEP ANALYSIS." BREZHNEV
FURTHER OUTLINED TASKS FOR "SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE FUL-
FILLMENT OF THE GOALS OF THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN"

2. AFTER PAYING USUAL LIP SERVICE TO ECONOMIC PROGRESS
ACHIEVED SINCE 24TH PARTY CONGRESS, BREZHNEV ZEROED IN ON
CONTINUING DEFICIENCIES IN WORK OF "INDIVIDUAL MINISTRIES
AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS." SPECIFICALLY, BREZHNEV WAS TROUBLED
BY PROBLEMS OF TRYING TO RAISE LABOR PRODUCTIVITY,
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DELYAS IN INTRODUCING NEW PRODUCTION CAPACITIES, INADEQUATE

UTILIZATION OF EXISTING INTRA-FACTORY MATERIAL AND MANPOWER RESERVES, AND LOW TECHNICAL AND QUALITY LEVELS OF OUTPUT. BREZHNEV ALSO DEVOTED ATTENTION TO QUESTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANDED HOUSING CONSTRUCTION.

3. SESSION DIRECTED COUNCIL OF MINISTERS PRESIDUM, WITH PARTICIPATION OF REPUBLIC COUNCILS OF MINISTERS AND PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS, TO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO ASSURING PROPER DEVELOPMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE, AND CONSUMER GOODS SECTORS, AND TO HOUSING CONSTRUCTION. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CHARIMAN KOSYGIN WOULD UP SESSION BY LAYING "SPECIAL STRESS" ON IMPORTANCE OF TASKS OUTLINED BY BREZHNEV.

4. COMMENT. DETALIED SPEECH BY BREZHNEV AT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION IS UNUSUAL HAPPENING AND WILL LIKELY BE TAKEN BY BUREAUCRATS THROUGHOUT SOVIET ECONOMIC STRUCTURE AS CLEAR INDICATION OF CONTINUING PARTY DISPLEASURE WITH COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. EVEN WITH MODERATELY GOOD YEAR PRESENTLY BEING ENJOYED BY SOVIET ECONOMY, CHRONIC PROBLEM AREAS PERSIST AND STILL GIVE RISE TO CONCERN AMONG PARTY LEADERSHIP. AS FAR AS FIVE-YEAR PLAN FULFILLMENT CONCERNED, BY NOW IT IS PRESUMABLY OBVIOUS TO PARTY AND ECONOMIC LEADERS THAT MOST PERFORMANCE INDICES WILL NOT BE MET.
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